54665/96

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677359

P/00/002
Section 29

Patent Request : Petty Patent

I/We, being the person(s) identified below as the Applicant, request the grant of a patent to the person identified below as the Nominated Person, for an invention described in the accompanying petty complete specification.

Full application details follow:

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Nominated Person

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[54] Invention Title

PLANT SUPPORT BRACKET

[72] Name(s) of actual inventor(s)

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[60] Application Number(s) and Date(s)

Application Number	Date of Application
PN3260	31 / 5 / 1995
	/ /

Basic Convention Application(s) Details

[31] Application Number	[33] Country	Country Code	[32] Date of Application
			/ /
			/ /

Divisional Application Details

[62] Original application number S066378 310596

Tick if applicable I am an eligible person described in Sections 33 - 38 of the Act ☐

Drawing number recommended to accompany the abstract 2

Signature M A Foster Date 29/5/96

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P/00/008
Section 29(1)
Regulation 3.1(2)

Notice of Entitlement

(To be filed before acceptance)

*Delete if not applicable

I/We, GARRY ALAN FOSTER

ACN/ARBN

of 150 SOUTH STREET WINDALE

State NSW Postcode 2306

being the applicant in respect of Application No:

state the following:-

Part 1 - Must be completed - *For all Applicants*

The person(s) nominated for the grant of the patent:

☑ *is/*~~are~~ the actual inventor(s).

or

☐ *has entitlement from the actual inventor(s) *(please insert name(s))*

Part 2 - Must be completed -*If the Application is Associated with one or more Provisional Applications*

The person(s) nominated for the grant of the patent:

☑ *is/*~~are~~ the applicant(s) of the provisional application(s) listed on the patent request form

or

☐ *has entitlement to make a request under Section 113 in relation to the provisional application(s) list on the patent request form:

Contact Phone No (049) 484013

Fax No

G A Foster

Signature(s)

29/5/96

Date

(if the applicant is a Company or other legal entity, also indicate the name and standing of the authorised signatory)

Note: Use Form P/00/008(b) where details for PCT, convention priority, microorganism deposit, additional or divisional application, are required.

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(Australian Petty Patent)

(54) Title
PLANT SUPPORT BRACKET

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GARRY ALAN FOSTER

(56) Prior Art Documents
AU 223504 21819/56 F16M 13/02
AU 495470 73157/75 A01K 3/00
AU 496370 87442/75 A01G 9/02

(57) Claim

1. A plant support bracket comprising a metal ~~or plastic~~ one piece bracket of any required length which has a notched straight edge at one end to allow for tying or fixing of a plant and a sharp fulcrum point opposing a support point formed in the opposite end which when attached to an upright stake will self lock on to the stake and project in a horizontal direction to provide support for the plant.

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Complete Specification
Petty Patent

Invention Title
Plant Support Bracket

The following statement is a full description of this invention, including the best method of performing known to me:-

The invention relates to improvements in the means of supporting plants. Many plants require some form of artificial support at various stages of growth. This can be accomplished by tying or otherwise fixing the plant to an upright stake or rod embedded in the ground adjacent to the plant. However, as the plant matures, supporting the lateral branches by using this method can prove to be difficult.

The present invention overcomes the problem by providing an adjustable bracket that can be attached to an upright stake or rod at one end so that it projects horizontally from the upright to provide a direct means of supporting the lateral branches of the plant by tying or fixing them to the opposite end.

While some devices exist that could be adapted to serve this purpose they are generally unsuitable or impractical for use in the circumstances that prevail in the home garden.

A description of the Plant Support Bracket, hereto referred to as the bracket(s) according to this invention, and the best method of performing it, can be more clearly defined by referring to the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

Fig 1 is an isometric view of the bracket (1) of Claim 1 which is formed at one end, hereto referred to as the pivot end, to provide a fulcrum point (2) and a support point (3). The opposite end of the

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bracket is shown to have a notched, straight edge (4).

Fig 2 shows how the bracket may be attached to an upright stake or rod (5), hereto referred to as the upright, so that the fulcrum point (2) engages one side of the upright and the support point (3) engages the opposite side. The weight of the bracket acts on the opposing pivot points to create a self locking effect on the upright, thereby holding the bracket in a horizontal position so that the lateral branches of the plant (6) can be directly supported at the notched end by use of ties (7), (8) or other means of attachment.

Fig 3 shows the bracket (1) of Claim 2 that has a fulcrum point (2) that is formed to project at a right angle to the main body of the bracket and that is that same width as the support point (3).

Fig 4 shows how, in the event of a plant having a robust main stem, the bracket can be attached directly to the main stem of the plant to support and train lateral branches.

Fig 5 shows how several brackets can be attached to a single upright and may project horizontally in any direction from the upright.

Fig 6 shows how the bracket can be attached to the upright in a lateral direction to avoid interference with other brackets already in place on the upright.

Fig 7 shows an adaptation of the bracket of Claim 1 whereby the main body of the bracket has an adverse angle of 135 degrees formed at a point adjacent to the fulcrum point so that the support point (3) is realigned in such a way that it and the fulcrum point (2) represent opposing ninety degree angles which will allow the bracket to grip the diagonal corners of a square upright (Fig 8) or the periphery of a round upright (Fig 9).

As the plant grows, vertical adjustment of the bracket can be made by lifting the bracket at the fulcrum point to the desired position and allowing it to self lock on the upright when released, while still

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maintaining support for the plant.

The bracket may be made of any suitable material such as metal ~~or plastic~~ and may be any required length.

The bracket does not need to be a precise fit to maintain its position on the upright which may be any suitable stake or rod such as a common garden stake.

The upright is therefore not claimed to be part of the invention.

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The claims defining the invention are as follows:-

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1. A plant support bracket comprising a metal ~~or plastic~~ one piece bracket of any required length which has a notched straight edge at one end to allow for tying or fixing of a plant and a sharp fulcrum point opposing a support point formed in the opposite end which when attached to an upright stake will self lock on to the stake and project in a horizontal direction to provide support for the plant.

2. The plant support bracket of Claim 1 that has a fulcrum point that is formed to project at a right angle to the main body of the bracket and which is the same width as the support point.

3. The plant support bracket of Claim 1 which has an adverse angle of 135 degrees formed at a point adjacent to the fulcrum pont so that the support point is constructed in such a way that it and the fulcrum point represent opposing ninety degree angles.

Garry Alan Foster 28 TH October 1996

G. A. Foster

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ABSTRACT

A device to assist in the support of plants is disclosed.

The device consists of a metal or plastic bracket 1 with a fulcrum point 2 and an opposing support point 3 formed in one end to provide a pivot and a notched straight edge 4 at the opposite end.

When the pivotal end of the bracket is attached to an upright stake 5 and a plant 6 is tied or fixed to the notched straight edge 4, the weight of the bracket and the plant exerts pressure on the opposing pivot points to provide a locking effect on the stake holding it in a horizontal position to provide support for the plant.

The notched straight edge of the bracket provides non slip points for securing the plant to the bracket.

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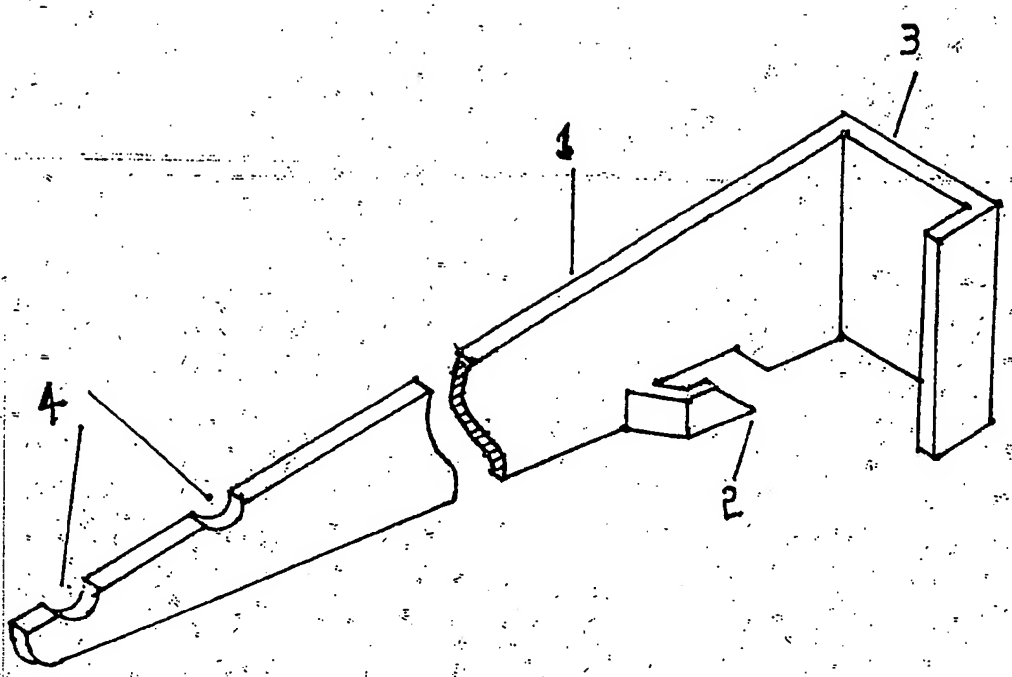

FIG. 1.

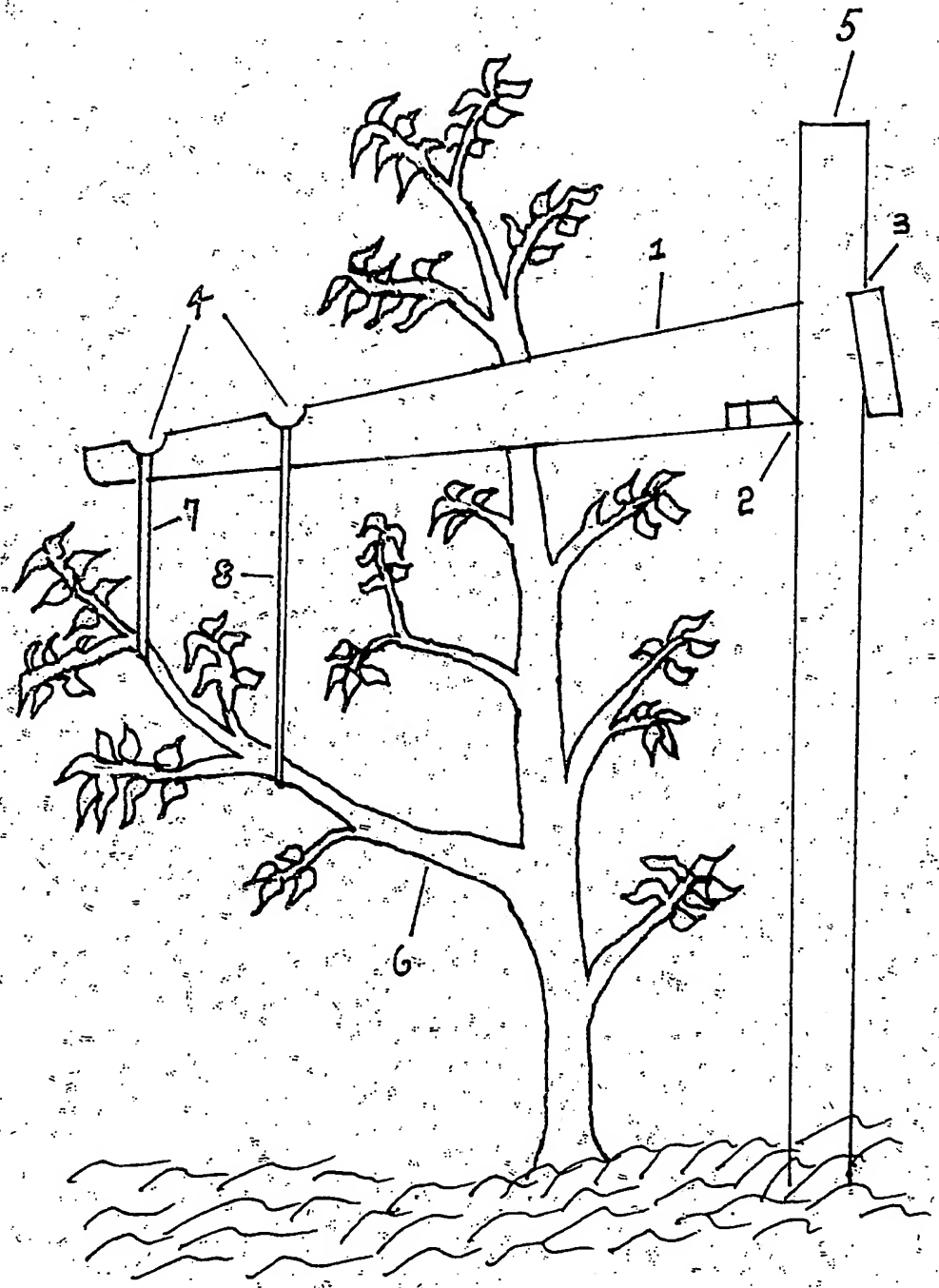

FIG. 2.

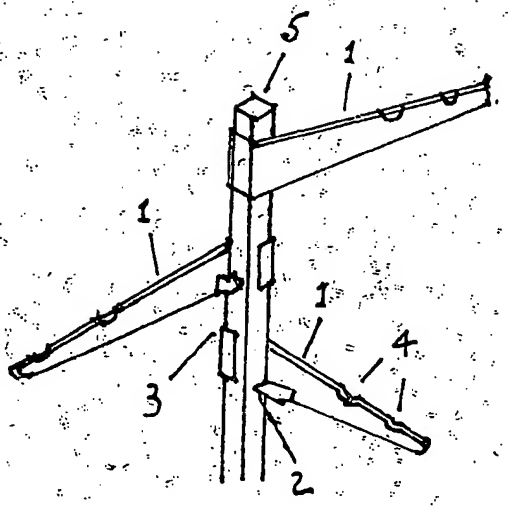

FIG. 5.

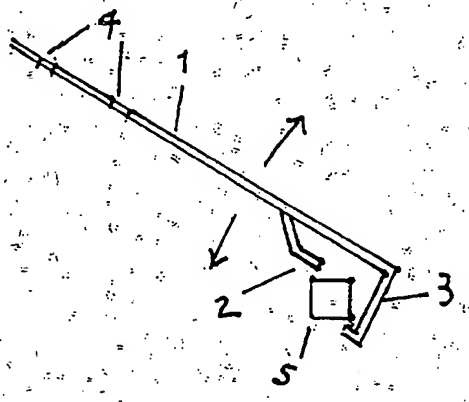

FIG. 6.